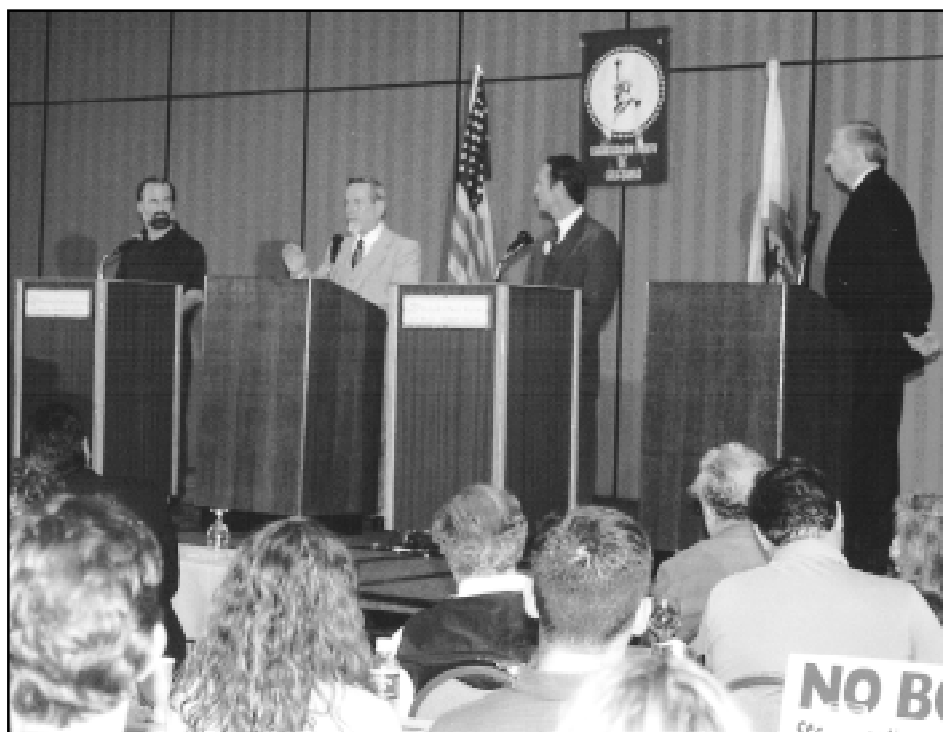




Convention Lights the Torch for Year 2000!

The California State Convention was held in San Diego during President's Day Weekend in February. The 256 delegates chosen will represent California at the National Convention in Anaheim beginning on June 30.



Above: Four candidates contend to be Libertarian nominee for President. (Left to right) David Hollist, Don Gorman, Barry Hess, Harry Browne.

At left, top to bottom: Chair Mark Hinkle presents ballot in which Erich Miller was chosen among eight candidates to be the California delegate to the National Platform Committee. Don Gorman announces his candidacy for President. Harry Browne is interviewed by reporter. (Photos by Joe



More Convention Photos and Information!

There are more convention photos online at:

<http://www.ca.lp.org/conv/2000/pix/>

Copies of the reports of the Northern Vice Chair and the Southern Vice Chair, as well as of the platform, bylaws, and election results are available at:

<http://www.ca.lp.org/conv/2000/>



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LPC Monthly

March 2000

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Next Deadline

March 15, 2000

LPC Monthly is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions contained herein do not necessarily represent official party positions unless indicated.

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Send changes of address to:
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2600 Virginia Ave. NW
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Washington DC 20037

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Note from the Editor: Letters to the editor are the least expensive, most cost-effective way to send our message into the most often read part of the newspaper. You can send a letter here to "test the waters" and get feedback. Be sure to also send your letter to your local papers.

THE DEBATES—A MOCKERY OF DEMOCRACY

It's ironic, living in an era of information glut, the people are not allowed to hear the full range of political opinions in this country.

It's a Catch 22 (loved that book) situation. "Third parties" can't get into the debates until their numbers justify it. To get numbers, third parties have to get their message out to the people. To get their message out to the people, they need to get into the debates.

Jesse Ventura doubled his percentage of the vote after getting into the debates, after the people of Minnesota heard his views.

I personally am against what the Reform Party stands for (more efficient, but also more government), but as a Libertarian, a member of the third largest party in the USA, I support and share their grievances with a system that prevents Americans from hearing other than establishment views.

The American people are being cheated.

Bill Hajdu, Firepig01@aol.com

SCAT DEMOCRAT!

This is Larry's response to receiving notices about the California Democratic Party Convention:

I am a Libertarian, not a Democrat.

Your party endorses everything that goes against freedom in this country.

You want to steal my hard-earned income

You want me to pay into the ponzi schemes of social security and medicare

You want to tell me what I should eat, watch, read, drink, smoke, drive, how to "educate the children"

You want to tell me you love my children more than I do

You want to tell me you know what is best for my children

You want me to pay for welfare for deadbeats, and multi-million dollar corporations

You want to preach to me about family values while your congressmen, senators and president are having affairs that they can't even keep private

You have no philosophy

You have no values

You have no morals

You have no value to me

Go crawl back under a rock and let us live and be free

Larry Rosner, Sdlare@aol.com

EDUCATORS IN LA: WORSE THAN USELESS!

The education bureaucracy has come under attack from Los Angeles Unified School District Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines and chief operating officer Howard Miller. They are trying to reform a corrupt system.

A front page article in The Los Angeles Times, February 24, is titled "Cortines Seeks 1,000 Staff Cuts." The sub-heading is "Schools: He and Miller say up to half of district's administrative and support jobs are impeding education and must be eliminated."

Four paragraphs later: "In some corners of the administration, he (Miller) said, students would have been better off if the staff had 'sat in a room and done nothing at all,' rather than push misguided methods. The problem, he said, 'is that they insist on doing something.'"

J. R. Sanders, SandersJR@aol.com

FUNDING "LEGITIMATE" GOVT. SERVICES

In the new Harry Browne infomercial just released, Browne brings up the subject of funding legitimate (authorized by the U.S. Constitution) government services. He suggests (as other libertarians have) that the federal income tax could be abolished and such legitimate services could be easily financed by excise taxes and tariffs. I'd certainly like to see the income tax (as well as other taxes) abolished; and, I'd like to see the federal government return to providing only those services authorized by the Constitution; but, even if the federal government IS reined-in to only provide legitimate services, such services still have to be funded in one way or another.

An excise tax is still a tax, a tax on the production, sale, or consumption of certain products or commodities; and, a tariff is essentially a tax on certain imported or exported goods. I see both as impediments to free trade and infringement of the right of individuals to engage in the exchange of goods and services with other individuals for their mutual benefit, as they see fit. Perhaps I don't grasp the nature of excise taxes and tariffs. Why would they be acceptable to libertarians? Any input would be appreciated...

If you have the RealVideo program (downloadable for free) and a fairly fast internet connection, the Harry Browne infomercial can be viewed for free at: <http://www.HarryBrowne.org/tglo.htm>

Rich McCormack, macknet@pacbell.net

March 2000

OPINION

From the Chair:

THE TORCH HAS BEEN LIT FOR YEAR 2000!

We are "returning to earth" after an exciting, energizing and revitalizing convention in San Diego. Many thanks to Juan Ros for doing the massive work in preparing a major conference. We greatly appreciate the work of Sandi Webb and the secretarial team who managed complex tasks with aplomb. We enjoyed a beautiful hotel, great food, rainy weather and a challenging slate of work to accomplish. PLUS we had a wonderful array of speakers, candidates and motivators. The Balcom Group brought the whole complex endeavor together.

At the convention we elected California's 256 delegates to the Libertarian Party National Convention in Anaheim from June 30 to July 4. We are fortunate to have the National Convention here in California. Be sure to support it with your attendance!

On to the work of year 2000!

The Libertarian Party of California has many challenges for the coming year. Among my personal goals for the coming year are:

- (A) establishing a financial reserve;
- (B) hiring an administrative assistant;
- (C) ensuring monthly newsletter.

I hope to have the support of members of the Executive Committee to achieve these accomplishments..



MARK HINKLE

Each goal will help grow and maintain the party: the financial reserve would minimize any chance of a fiscal crisis such as the one we faced in the 4th quarter of 1999; the second staffer would enable the party to respond quickly to the expected surge in inquiries, prospects, and media calls that will result from the 2000 campaign,

allowing us to convert more of those inquiries to new members; and the newsletter's publication would give our members the information they need to discuss the LPC with their non-Libertarian friends.

One of the most important goals for the LPC this year is getting our candidates on the ballot – 200 in 2000! Be sure to contact Ted Brown if you are interested or curious about running. EVERY Libertarian can run for office—consider it your personal outreach effort.

Last month, I reported that our monthly pledge base was \$5,212. I'm pleased to report that convention attendees added over \$500 a month in new and increased pledges. We're so close to that \$6,000 mark, I can taste it.

Our telemarketing campaign that began last November, was followed up with a second notice reminder. To date, we've received \$8,500 of the \$12,970 in pledges.

The fund raising letter in support of our candidates has set a recent direct mail record: \$11,586.70 to date. On behalf of our candidates, we thank you!

it is important that we continue to grow our membership and encourage members to make a monthly pledge. You can use the form on the back page of the newsletter to make a pledge, donation or renew your membership. Please consider upgrading your membership classification from Basic to Sustaining, from Sustaining to Sponsor. Demonstrate your commitment with a Life Membership if your situation permits.

I understand the LNC has a 250,000 piece membership recruitment letter going out now. We hope that this will increase our membership.

We have good news on ballot status for the Libertarian Party. For the first time, we now have ballot status on the basis of **both** election results **and** registration.

On a sad note, Steve Kubby is on trial as this newsletter is being printed. We hope that his trial will confirm the right of citizens to use marijuana for medical purposes. The citizens of California have endorsed medical marijuana with Prop. 215. Now Steve has to prove it.

Your participation and contributions fuel our successes.

*Yours in Liberty,
Mark Hinkle*



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Reach over 7,000 Libertarians with your product or your message!
\$75 for 1/8 page (3.75"x2.25") • \$125 for 1/4 page (7.5"x2.25")
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LPC Convention



San Diego February 18-20



Standing-room-only crowd waits to hear opening speaker Nathaniel Branden. Nathaniel is in the audience on the far right (front row) as Juan Ros, LPC Executive Director introduces him. (Photo by Al Segalla).

THANKS TO MY TEAM

I wish to thank my Secretary's Team for doing an awesome job at the State Convention.

My daughter Aubri's "flying fingers" that captured the minutes in a blow by blow account was a crash course in taking minutes. I had very little clean-up work to do to have a draft copy to send out.

My POSSLQ, Dan Wiener, was fabulous at the overhead display keeping track of the amendments, and amendments to the amendments.

I wish to thank Elizabeth Brierly, immediate past Secretary, for her help typing names on the list of Nominations for Delegates to the National Convention. She was also instrumental as part of the credentials committee.

And last but not least is Ed Moss whose help was vital to me in making sure that delegates were properly credentialed.

Sandi Webb, LPC Secretary



(Left to Right) Ed Teyssier received the Karl Bray Award for his volunteer work for the cause of Liberty. Starchild gambols with Chikako Suzuki. Jim Turney taped most of the convention programs. Audio and video cassettes are available. Contact him at 703/339-3971 so you can share this convention with your friends and colleagues!

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Libertarian Candidate for President

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<http://i.am/trading>

FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHT TO KEEP & BEAR ARMS! <http://www.vetothegovernor.org/>

California is one of the few states that do not protect the right to bear arms in their state constitution. The Libertarian Party has endorsed a petition to put a measure on the ballot to fix that.

Instructions on downloading, printing, and circulating the petition are available online. It will take only a minute of your time, and we need **YOUR** signature! If you can volunteer to collect additional signatures, or need a petition sent to you by mail, please phone Dana Albrecht at (408) 278-7966 or e-mail orfeo@virtue.org.



LPC Convention



UNOFFICIAL SUMMARY OF ELECTIONS, PLATFORM, AND BYLAWS

ELECTION RESULTS

State Executive Committee At-Large

Lori Adasiewicz
 Aaron Starr
 José Castañeda
 Joe Dehn
 Bruce Dovner
 Elizabeth Brierly (1st Alternate)
 John Ballard (2nd Alternate)

State Judicial Committee

Bob Weber
 Mary Gingell
 Richard Boddie
 Ray Strong
 Ernst Ghermann

National Committee

Joe Dehn
 Scott Lieberman#
 Terry Savage#
 (#) Final representative/alternate configuration will depend on region alignment. If California does not align with another state, Dehn will be the representative and Lieberman the alternate. The delegates at the national convention were authorized to approve representation for a multi-state region with the condition that Dehn be one of the representatives and Lieberman be either a representative or first alternate.

National Platform Committee

Erich Miller
 (no alternate was selected)

National Credentials Committee

Sandi Webb
 Carole Brow (alternate)

National Delegates

256 selected. Will be posted at:
<http://www.ca.lp.org/conv/2000/>

Presidential Straw Poll Votes

Harry Browne	73
Don Gorman	13
Jacob Hornberger	8
Mary Ruwart	5
Barry Hess	1
Bob Sheckler (write-in)	1

SUMMARY OF PLATFORM CHANGES

- In SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY plank, second paragraph, add to end a new sentence: "Neither government agencies nor their representatives shall be exempted from laws, statutes and regulations applicable to the citizenry."
- Wording changes in IMMIGRATION plank: change two instances of "illegal aliens" to "so-called illegal aliens", one instance of "so-called illegal aliens" to "noncitizens of the U.S.", one instance of "aliens" to "people", one instance of "aliens" to "them"; move last two paragraphs to become second and third paragraphs.
- In JUDICIAL plank, insert new item K in list of reforms: "The abolition of special penalties imposed for crimes committed against police officers or government employees."
- In INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND CIVIL ORDER preamble, change the third sentence to read: "Governments must be unconditionally limited to prevent the infringement of individual rights."

SUMMARY OF BYLAWS AND RULES CHANGES

- In Convention Rule 10: AGENDA, order of business changed to put elections after Platform report and before Bylaws report (even years) or after Bylaws report and before Platform report (odd years), to move elections relating to the national LP to the end of the elections section, and to move Resolutions and other matters after all other business except appointment of Style Committee.
- In Bylaw 3, Section 5, second paragraph, first sentence, relating to provision of membership lists upon approval of officers, change "may" to "shall".
- In Bylaw 15, Section 3, item B, relating to ex officio delegates to the state convention, add phrase "or a person appointed by the chair of that County Central Committee who is otherwise qualified as a delegate under rule 3," after "each chair of a county central committee".
- In Bylaw 15, Section 3, item A, increase the allocation of delegates to regions based on membership to one for each 1/2 percent, instead of one for each one percent, of the statewide membership.

Submitted by Joe Dehn, jwd3@dehnbase.org

LPC Execom Minutes (unofficial summary by Joe Dehn)

The Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of California met on Monday 21 February 2000, following the state convention, at the Doubletree Hotel Mission Valley in San Diego.

A budget for 2000 was adopted, anticipating about \$307,000 in gross revenue and incorporating changes to allow for moving functions now performed at the Executive Director's home and by a contractor into a new office in the LA area. Debate focused on the question of whether to budget for hiring a second full-time staff member or for printing and mailing the newsletter every month. The budget as adopted allowed for only a part-timer and the newsletter every other month, leaving about \$21,000 as surplus.

Ted Brown, Eric Lund, Aaron Starr, and Sandi Webb were elected to serve with state chair Mark Hinkle as the Operations Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for 18-19 March with the location not yet determined.

LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATES

✓ Find Your Candidates! ✓ Support Your Candidates! ✓ Help Fund Your Candidates!

US Senate	Gail Lightfoot	gkltft@aol.com
US Rep. District 1	Emil Rossi	
US Rep. 2	Charles Martin	crmartin@jps.net
US Rep. 3	D. A. "Art" Tuma	tuma2k@hotmail.com
US Rep. 4	William Frey	zfr1tz@zdnetaol.com
US Rep. 5	Cullene Lang	cullene@aol.com
US Rep. 6	Richard Barton	
US Rep. 8	Erik Bauman	
US Rep. 9	Fred Foldvary	foldvary@pobox.com
US Rep. 11	Kathryn A. Russow	katstrofik@aol.com
US Rep. 12	Barbara Less	
US Rep. 13	Howard Mora	howard@visto.com
US Rep. 14	Joe Dehn	jwd3@dehnbase.org
US Rep. 15	Ed Wimmers	edwimmersforcongress@hotmail.com
US Rep. 16	Dennis Umphress	dennis@ballscrews.com
US Rep. 17	Rick Garrett	rickg@happytours.com
US Rep. 19	Elizabeth Taylor	
US Rep. 20	Arnold Kriegbaum	wartrees@inreach.com
US Rep. 21	James Manion	jmanion@cc.ca.us
US Rep. 22	Joe Furcinite	cyberjoe@pronet.net
US Rep. 23	Roger Peebles	peebles@cnmnetwork.com
US Rep. 24	Juan Ros	director@ca.lp.org
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US Rep. 26	Bill Farley	drduke1@earthlink.net
US Rep. 27	Ted Brown	tebrown@earthlink.net
US Rep. 28	Randall Weissbuch	rgwew@earthlink.net
US Rep. 29	Jack Anderson	johann@pacbell.net
US Rep. 30	Jason Heath	hiat@earthlink.net
US Rep. 31	Michael "Mick" McGuire	m5453mcg@aol.com
US Rep. 32	Bob Weber	104450.3235@compuserve.com
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US Rep. 36	Daniel Sherman	daniel.sherman@trw.com
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US Rep. 38	Jack Neglia	
US Rep. 39	Keith Gann	kgann@irvine-sensors.com
US Rep. 40	Jay Lindberg	
US Rep. 42	John Scott Ballard	jonballarl@aol.com
US Rep. 43	Bill Reed	willyearl@earthlink.net
US Rep. 45	Don Hull	
US Rep. 46	Richard Boddie	rboddie@earthlink.net
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US Rep. 49	Doris Ball	balldorgeo@aol.com
US Rep. 50	Dave Willoughby	audenw@home.com
US Rep. 51	Dan Muhe	danmuhe@aol.com
US Rep. 52	Mike Benoit	pursuitoflife@access1.net
State Senate District 1	Jon Petersen	jonlp@jps.net
State Senate 5	Carole Brow	liberty@lodinet.net
State Senate 9	James Eyer	j.eyer@emailoffice.com
State Senate 11	Jack Hickey	jackhick@cwnet.com
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State Senate 21	Bob New	
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State Assembly 3	Bill Thomason	wltcpa@thegrid.net
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State Assembly 19	Steve Lundry	
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State Assembly 63	Ethel Mohler	EthelM36@aol.com
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State Assembly 65	Bonnie Flickinger	bflickinger@earthlink.net
State Assembly 67	Autumn Browne	abrowne@socal.rr.com
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State Assembly 70	Bob Vondruska	WhatAboutBob70th@aol.com
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State Assembly 75	Gary Pietila	sandiegan@switchboard.net
State Assembly 76	David Oakey	DOakey@encad.com
State Assembly 77	Mike Metti	MMetti@Mail-Bank.com
State Assembly 78	Dennis Triglia	dtriglia@home.com
State Assembly 79	Richard Cardulla	cardulla@access1.com
State Assembly 80	Susan Marie Weber	susanw@dnai.com
Calaveras County Supervisor	Thomas Tryon	
Lakeside Fire District Board	Lynn Badler	lbrtee@flash.net
Nevada County Supervisor	Lois Engel	
San Diego County Supervisor	Ken Bourke	
San Diego County Superior Court Judge	Paul Teyssier	PaulTeyssier@juno.com
San Diego City Council Dist.3	Daniel Beeman	Beemanin2000@yahoo.com
San Diego City Council Dist.5	Edward Teyssier	etlp@bigfoot.com
San Francisco Supervisor	Starchild	dreamer@ziplink.net
Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Seat 14	Thomas Spielbauer	thomas@spielbauer.com
Santa Cruz County Supervisor	Patrick Dugan	
Shasta County Supervisor D. 4	Dwight M. Bailey	WiseGuyTwo@aol.com

Around the state

TIP FOR CANDIDATES

If you have (or are planning to have) a web site for your campaign, you might want to include a link to a map of your district, available at the following location. Most voters have no idea of what district(s) they're in, and this makes it easy for them to see if they're in yours. <http://www.calvoter.org/maps/>

David F. Nolan, DFN@alum.mit.edu

TED'S PLACE

The Ted Brown for Congress web site is now up and running. Many thanks to my webmaster, Don Meyer of Region 64. Please click on: <http://home.earthlink.net/~tebrown>. Your comments are welcome. Ted Brown, Candidate, 27th Congressional District, tebrown@earthlink.net

KNOW WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Here is an excellent overview of California taxation and spending, prepared by the Legislative Analyst's Office, December, 1998. The 1999 update will not be available for some time, I suspect. http://www.lao.ca.gov/1998_calfacts/98calfacts_toc.html

Richard Rider, RRider@san.rr.com

NOTABLE QUOTABLE

"Like hungry dogs peering into the butcher-shop window and imagining the feast they'd have if only they could get inside, California's teachers' unions and school administrators can't wait to spend your tax dollars if Proposition 26 (repeal of 2/3 vote required for bonds) passes on March 7."

Excerpt from February 13 column
by Steven Greenhut, Keeping the Tax Hounds at Bay.

Libertarian Party Online Discussion

Campaigns, Strategy, Platform
<http://www.dehnbase.org/lpc/>

The LPC Echo:
"Supporting Open Communication
Among LPC Activists since 1994"

QUICK CHANGE

LPC members
can update information at
<http://www.ca.lp.org/lpc-member-services.html>

Renew membership, address change,
contribute, plus, plus.

FREE WEB PAGES FOR CANDIDATES

The League of Women Voters gives candidates a free web page on their www.smartvoter.org/ website. I've found there are a number of candidates that don't have web pages and some that don't seem to have computers. If you know of such a candidate you can enter his information for him.

Simply go to www.smartvoter.org/candidate/ and enter the info to log in. When you get to the password section, check the "I don't know the password" box and they'll e-mail you a password almost immediately. Then you fill in the basic candidate information. They also give you sections for candidate biography, position papers, and political philosophy plus space for a headshot photo. As a County Central Committee candidate I used the Political Philosophy block to plug the LP web site.

I'd suggest that even candidates that already have their own web pages take advantage of this since it's likely to get more hits than your personal campaign site but they give you a section where you can list your own site, too. Give it a try. Call up your local candidate that isn't online and tell him/her that you can do the page for them. Fred from Humboldt, freddym@wcinet.net

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES: WIN ONE, LOSE ONE!

Don Gorman of New Hampshire announced his candidacy to be the Libertarian nominee for US President during the LPC convention in San Diego in February. Gail Lightfoot is coordinating Gorman's efforts in California. Contact information: GoGorman@gorman2000.org and <http://www.Gorgman2000.org>.

Presidential candidate Larry Hines left the Libertarian Party. He hopes to lead a new National Independence Party. "I wholly support libertarian principles and my platform remains the same," Hines said. "I still hope my supporters will vote for me in the primaries where I am on the ballot. If my message has reached enough people, I think it could be a solid base for establishing a National Independence Party."



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167 pages, QPB

A marvelous idea.—Andrea Rich

A wealth of useful information!—James W. Harris

I wish it were required reading.—Marc Beauchamp

Recommended for candidates for political office.—Ron Crickenberger

Valuable contribution to the libertarian-Austrian library.—David Bergland

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Second Edition
Six New Chapters
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AROUND THE STATE

MORE LIBERTARIANS IN MENDOCINO!

The Libertarian Party of Mendocino County will be born on **March 14** in Willits. Ed Kuwatch, the contact, reports that their get-together meeting attracted ten people. They have decided to form a county LP organization, elect officers, and adopt bylaws. I plan to be there in person to represent the LPC.

Rodney Austin, LPC Northern Vice Chair,
rkastin@cybergate.com

A SIGN FOR THE TIMES!

Weather permitting, the Antelope Valley Libertarian Party will be collecting trash along both sides of the Antelope Valley "Free" way, at 9:00 AM on **18 March** 1.5 miles north of the Aqua Dulce exit in support of the two "Libertarian" signs we have there.

Bill Holmes, Vice Chair, Antelope Valley LP, bill.holmes@avlp.org

NEW ADDRESS

Our Executive Director, Juan Ros, has a new address is: 5713 Hazeltine Ave. #1 Van Nuys CA 91401 • (818) 782-8400 • (818) 782-8488 (fax) His e-mail is still: director@ca.lp.org Note: the zip code should be 91401 (it was incorrectly printed in a previous issue).

NEW FACE IN SAN FRANCISCO!

David Molony, who has gotten involved with our group in the past year, had expressed to me his potential interest in running for chair, and I encouraged him to do so. Turnover is a good thing, and having been chair for two years, I felt it was appropriate to step aside and let someone else take the reins for a while. David has been very helpful in getting our region's web site up and running, and is a calm and dedicated guy.

Starchild, dreamer@ziplink.net

REASONABLE ENVIRONMENTALISM?

I'm never sure whether I'm just showing up late for the party or have stumbled across something of value but little known. Judging from the introduction to the organization (What is CFACT?), the assemblage of expertise and the expressed concepts are appealing; take a look. <http://www.cfact.org/>

Steve Allison, LibertyTEK@aol.com

ALL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HAS ACTIVE LP CHAPTERS

Three Southern California regions that were inactive one year ago now have active party organizations. These are Region 67 (East San Gabriel Valley), Region 68 (Antelope Valley) and Region 13 (Imperial County).

Ted Brown, LPC Southern Vice Chair, tebrown@earthlink.net

LPC Endorses Compassionate Marijuana

The LPC endorsed the American Medical Marijuana Association's petition to California Attorney General Bill Lockyer urging the adoption of specific guidelines to implement the Compassionate Use Act of 1996.

Sandi Webb, LPC secretary, sandi@sandiwebb.com

GOOD NEWS!

Our voter registration numbers exceed the 1% requirement for the LPC to maintain ballot status in California. There are two main requirements for the LPC to maintain ballot status here in California:

- A. 2% vote that one or more of our statewide candidates get every four years (during the governor's race).
- B. Voter registration at 1% or higher of the total vote for governor

Libertarian registrations in California are continuing their upward direction according to figures released by the Secretary of State. On January 7, 2000, there were 87,027 registered Libertarians. (In 1998, the total vote for governor was: 8,385,196.)

Mark Hinkle, LPC Chair, mark@garlic.com



FIGHTERS AGAINST THE BLANKET PRIMARY LAW

Four years of litigation are nearing an end as the U.S. Supreme Court agrees to hear opposition to California's Blanket Primary law. Shown during a break at one session are (from left) C.T. Weber, chair of Peace and Freedom Party of California; attorney George Waters; Gail Lightfoot representing the Libertarian Party of California; and Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*, an expert witness. Other plaintiffs are the California Democratic Party and California Republican Party.

(Photo by Richard E. Venable)

AROUND THE STATE

POLITICS AS USUAL

GOVERNMENT MATH \$20 = \$126,000

Arizona pays \$126,000 to jail armless woman for selling \$20 worth of marijuana. Prosecutors decided to put a woman with no arms and only one leg in prison for a year for a minor marijuana violation—at a cost to taxpayers of \$126,000.

Libertarian Party Release, February 11, 2000

CHINA FEARS E-MAIL AND THE WEB

The Chinese government issued stern new regulations today that were intended to control the release of information on the Internet. The new regulations specifically govern the posting and dissemination of “state secrets” a vaguely defined term that has been applied by the government to cover any information whose release it has not sanctioned. *The New York Times*, January 27, 2000

THE VIAGRA SPECIAL

Max, age 90 and his intended wife Mollie, age 82, received a mandatory book about parenting when they applied for a marriage license. Under Florida law, ALL marrying couples must receive a book about parenting under the Marriage Preparation and Preservation Act of 1998. Ann Landers column, January 30, 2000

MOM LOSES HER KIDS OVER APPROVED DRUG

A woman who was given a common sedative during labor lost custody of her newborn son and three other children for three months when the baby failed a drug test. Her doctor authorized her to receive Seconal, often used to calm women in labor.

The San Diego Union-Tribune, February 12, 2000

GOVERNMENT IS ADDICTED TO THE DRUG WAR!

Federal spending on drug control has gone from around \$1.5 billion to around \$16 billion, mostly for interdiction and criminal justice. State and local spending has likewise multiplied, bringing the combined annual bill to something in the neighborhood of \$40 billion. The prison population which fifteen years ago was under three-quarters of a million, crossed the two-million mark in February, 2000. Drug convictions account for the great bulk of that increase. The average drug offender in federal prison serves

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more time than does the average rapist, burglar, or mugger. This costly jihad has scared off some casual users, but it has done nothing to reduce the number of hard-core addicts.

The New Yorker, February 2, 2000

TOSS YOUR (USED HAT) IN THE RING

While looking for anything prohibiting demonstrations involving signs in LA, I ran across an interesting municipal ordinance. It is of vital importance!

SEC. 47.04. SALE OF USED OR SECONDHAND HATS.

No person shall sell, expose for sale, offer for sale, or trade any used or secondhand hat unless: (a) Such hat has securely and conspicuously affixed therein a label upon which there is printed in the English language the name and address of the manufacturer of the hat, and also either the words “Used Hat,” or the words “Secondhand Hat”; and (b) A sign bearing either the words, “Used Hats,” or the words, “Secondhand Hats,” and legible at a distance of thirty (30) feet, is kept posted in a conspicuous place on the premises where such hats are sold, exposed for sale, offered for sale or trade, or a sign bearing either the words, “Used Hats,” or the words, “Secondhand Hats,” is kept posted at or adjacent to the counter, or other place, where such hats are sold, exposed for sale, offered for sale or trade.

Spencer Hahn, BBachtung@aol.com, February 8, 2000

SAVE THESE DATES:

Libertarian Party NATIONAL Convention will be held in Anaheim, CA between

June 30 and July 4, 2000.

E-address for information: www.lp.org/conv/2000/

Are you a delegate?

A new list has been created for delegates to discuss business, strategy and proposals before the convention.

E-address for delegates:

LP-National-Delegates-on@list.LibertarianActivist.org



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